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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/663,568	KOSSATCHEV ET AL.
	Examiner Lawrence Shrader	Art Unit 2124

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Applicant's amendment/RCE filed on 7/10/2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15 and 17-26.
3. The drawings filed on 15 September 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

1. This action is responsive to the Applicant's Amendment/RCE filed on July 01, 2004.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1 – 15, and 17 – 26 are allowed (renumbered 1 – 25).
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
Prior art of record, taken either singly and/or in combination, does not teach or disclose the following features with regard to independent claims 1, 18, 24, and 26:

Decomposing existing test suites having automatically generated components and manually developed components to define one or more standard test schemes based on the decomposition; *and providing a skeleton description for each scheme in a skeleton definition language adapted to control the transformation of the skeleton description into a skeleton tool for generating a test suite, wherein the transforming is controlled by the skeleton definition language.* Therefore, the claimed invention decreases the complexity of verification system development and increases the reliability.

The closest prior art is Logan and Caughran:

Logan et al., U.S. Patent 6,510,402 exposes (decomposes) the construction of components in a class written in a test suite implementation language to generate a test suite, but does not teach decomposition performed on existing test suites, nor provides a skeleton description for each test scheme in a skeleton definition language adapted to control the

transformation of the skeleton description into a skeleton tool for generating a test suite, wherein the transforming is controlled by the skeleton definition language.

Caughran et al., U.S. Patent 6,381,604, teaches the examination of an existing test suite to manually add tests to an existing test suite, but does not include automatically generated components, nor provides a skeleton description for each test scheme in a skeleton definition language adapted to control the transformation of the skeleton description into a skeleton tool for generating a test suite, wherein the transforming is controlled by the skeleton definition language.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lawrence Shrader whose telephone number is (703) 305-8046. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 08:00-16:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki can be reached on (703) 305-9662. The fax phone numbers for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Lawrence Shrader
Examiner
Art Unit 2124

October 14, 2004



ANIL KHATRI
PRIMARY EXAMINER